GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:846
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2006
SAND MINING IN MP
Argal Shri Ashok

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether illegal mining of sand is being done from national wildlife sanctuary along the Chambal river in Madhya Pradesh which has been declared reserved area for alligators;

(b) whether illegal mining is endangering the lives of alligators,;

(c) if so, the measures taken to save them ;

(d) whether the Government propose any measure to stop the illegal sand mining from the reserved area;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the details of action taken against the persons found guilty of illegal mining of sand?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) & (b) The National Chambal Wildlife Sanctuary was established for the conservation of Ghariyals. Alligators are not found in India. As per the information received from the State Government of Madhya Pradesh, there are reports of illegal sand mining in the Sanctuary area. Illegal sand mining does have an adverse impact on the Ghariyals.

(c), (d) & (e) The State Government has been making all efforts to stop illegal sand mining within the sanctuary. Joint Action by the District Administration, Police and Forest personnel has been taken to control the illegal sand mining. Further, ex-army personnel have also been deployed along with the staff to control this activity.

(f) As informed by the State Government, 50 complaints have been lodged with the Police, out of which 25 cases are in the Court. From January 2004 to July 2006, 45 Tractors with trolleys, 2 trolleys, 7 trucks and 2 J.C.B. machines found involved in illegal mining were also seized.